

ABSTRACT

The present invention is directed to a system for reserving items over a computer network, which includes receiving inventory information about at least one item stored in at least one geographic location; storing the inventory information in a data source; receiving a request from a user to reserve the item; generating a reservation request based upon request
5 from the user; sending the reservation request to the geographic location to activate an electronic tag assigned to the item to indicate that the item has been reserved; and

receiving a response from the geographic location that the electronic tag has been activated. This may be accomplished in the present invention through the use of an
10 information exchange system that includes a Web server, a data source interface, a data source, and an email server.